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APPLICATION NO.	FILED DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/689,139	10/12/2000	John Jianhua Chen	S632-9178	7998
490	7590	05/28/2003		
VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A. 6109 BLUE CIRCLE DRIVE SUITE 2000 MINNETONKA, MN 55343-9185			EXAMINER NOLAN, SANDRA M	
			ART UNIT 1772	PAPER NUMBER 8

DATE MAILED: 05/28/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application N.	Applicant(s)
	09/689,139	CHEN, JOHN JIANHUA
Examiner	Art Unit	
Sandra M. Nolan	1772	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2003 .

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-8 and 12-19 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 9-11 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____ .
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ . 6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claims

1. Pursuant to entry of the amendment in the response dated 24 March 2003 (Paper No. 7), claims 1-19 are pending.

Rejections Withdrawn

2. The 35 USC 103 rejection of claims 1-4, 8-13 and 15-17 as unpatentable over Fritz et al (US 5,735,830) in view of Wang (US 5,348,538), as set out in section 8 of the 23 December 2002 office action (Paper No. 6), is withdrawn in view of applicant's arguments in and the declaration enclosed with Paper No. 7.
3. The 35 USC 103 rejection of claims 5-7, 14 and 18 as unpatentable over Wang in view of Schmidt (US 5,055,249), as recited in section 9 of Paper No. 6, is withdrawn in view of applicant's arguments in Paper No. 7.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 9-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The use of free-radical mechanisms in silane/polymer interactions is not suggested by the prior art applied herein.

New Rejection

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-8 and 12-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tedeschi et al (US 6,218,016).

Tedeschi teaches the production of dilatation balloons (col. 5, line 11) having coatings thereon (title). The coatings comprise a polyisocyanate, an amine donor, and an isocyanatosilane containing an alkoxy group (col. 4, lines 45-50). The presence of water accelerates the coatings' cure rates (col. 7, lines 46-49). The compound "3-isocyanyopropyltriethoxysilane" [i.e., 3-isocyanatopropyltriethoxysilane] is used in the example.

In the absence of convincing objective evidence to the contrary, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to use reagents in the coatings of Tedeschi in the production of its dilatation balloons.

The motivation to employ the coating reagents of Tedeschi in the production of dilatation balloons is found at col. 9, lines 42-48, where the presence of polyureas produced by the reaction of the amine and isocyanate groups is taught to be give superior biocompatibility and fatigue resistance.

It is deemed desirable to make dilatation balloons from reagents that yield good biocompatibility and fatigue resistance in order to enhance the usefulness of the balloons.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to the Examiner, Sandra M. Nolan, whose telephone number is 703/308-9545. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm, Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, her supervisor, Harold Pyon, can be reached at 703/308-4251. The general fax number for the art unit is 703/305-5436. The fax number for after final communications is 703/872-9310. The receptionist answers 703/308-0661.



S. M. Nolan
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1700

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26 May 2003